

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 IO-13
L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05
FEAE-00 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 H-01 /094 R

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PM/NPP - MR. OPLINGER
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EUR/SE - MR. LEDSKY
IO/SCT - MR. TREVITHICK
L/OES - MR. SIEGAL

-----029840 211856Z /46

R 211644Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 143674

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, GR

SUBJECT: HEU FOR GREEK RESEARCH REACTOR

REF: STATE 143327

1. WHEN THE WHITE HOUSE SUBMITTED ITS PROPOSED NON-
PROLIFERATION BILL TO THE CONGRESS, THE PRESIDENT INDICATED
THAT IT WAS ADMINISTRATION POLICY TO TAKE STEPS TO MINIMIZE
INVENTORIES ABROAD OF U.S.-SUPPLIED HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM
(HEU), SINCE IT IS CAPABLE OF BEING USED WITH MINIMAL
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ADDITIONAL PROCESSING IN NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE DEVICES. ONE
OF THE DECISIONS WHICH HAS BEEN MADE IS TO ENCOURAGE
COUNTRIES TO RETURN IRRADIATED HEU FUEL TO THE U.S.,
FOLLOWING AN APPROPRIATE PERIOD OF RADIOACTIVE COOLING.

2. WE HAVE SINCE 1970 PROVIDED GREECE WITH APPROXIMATELY
13 KG OF HEU, SOME OF WHICH IS IN THE REACTOR AND SOME

COOLING IN REACTOR STORAGE POOL.

3. THE EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO APPROACH APPROPRIATE GREEK AUTHORITIES TO ASCERTAIN THEIR WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER RETURNING IRRADIATED FUEL AFTER SUFFICIENT COOLING. IF THEY HAVE NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE, WE WOULD PROPOSE TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE ON THE MODALITIES

OF THE RETURN.

4. THIS U.S. INTEREST IN RETURN OF IRRADIATED HEU IS NOT DIRECTED TOWARD THE GOG BECAUSE OF ANY UNIQUE CONCERNS ABOUT GREEK NON-PROLIFERATION INTENTIONS. WE ARE MAKING SIMILAR APPROACHES ELSEWHERE IN CASES WHERE THE HEU INVENTORIES ARE RELATIVELY HIGH. MANY COUNTRIES FIND IT USEFUL TO RETURN SPENT FUEL AS A MEANS OF SOLVING STORAGE PROBLEMS.

5. THE EMBASSY MAY INFORM THE GREEK AUTHORITIES THAT WE HAVE SENT PROPOSED SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPLY CONTRACT TO IAEA VIENNA AND EXPECT TO BE MOVING AHEAD WITH FINAL ARRANGEMENTS PERMITTING TRANSFER OF HEU THROUGH THE IAEA FOR DEMOKRITOS RESEARCH REACTOR. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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